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ABSTRACT

Graduates of 1972 from the seven City Colleges of Chicago were studied to: (1) determine the pursuits of the graduates; (2) study the relationship between their educational field and their continued education or field or work; and (3) identify possible trends by comparing the characteristics and pursuits of the graduates with those of previous graduates. A random sample of 763 graduates was sent a questionnaire, and approximately 48.7% responded. Of the 372 who responded, 200 had transferred to senior colleges. The questionnaire data are tabulated. These data show a high correlation between the educational programs chosen by the graduates in the city college and in senior institutions. Of the graduates who were working, 49% were employed in a job that was related to their city college program, and 68% felt that the city college courses had given them specific skills that were job related; 68.9% indicated that they had either taken additional courses or that they planned to do so. In comparing the 1965 graduate with the 1972 graduate of the City Colleges of Chicago, it was found that the 1972 class graduated in a shorter period of time. The breakdown as to baccalaureate-oriented program and occupational program showed that there was a high degree of comparability between 1965 and 1972 graduates. There was an increase in the number of graduates entering public senior institutions in 1972. Full-time students in senior colleges increased from 75% in 1965 to 85% in 1972; 61% of the 1972 full-time students were gainfully employed compared with 50% of the 1965 graduates. (DB)

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A PROFILE

OF CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO

1972 GRADUATES

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.
LOS ANGELES

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CLEARINGHOUSE FOR
JUNIOR COLLEGE
INFORMATION

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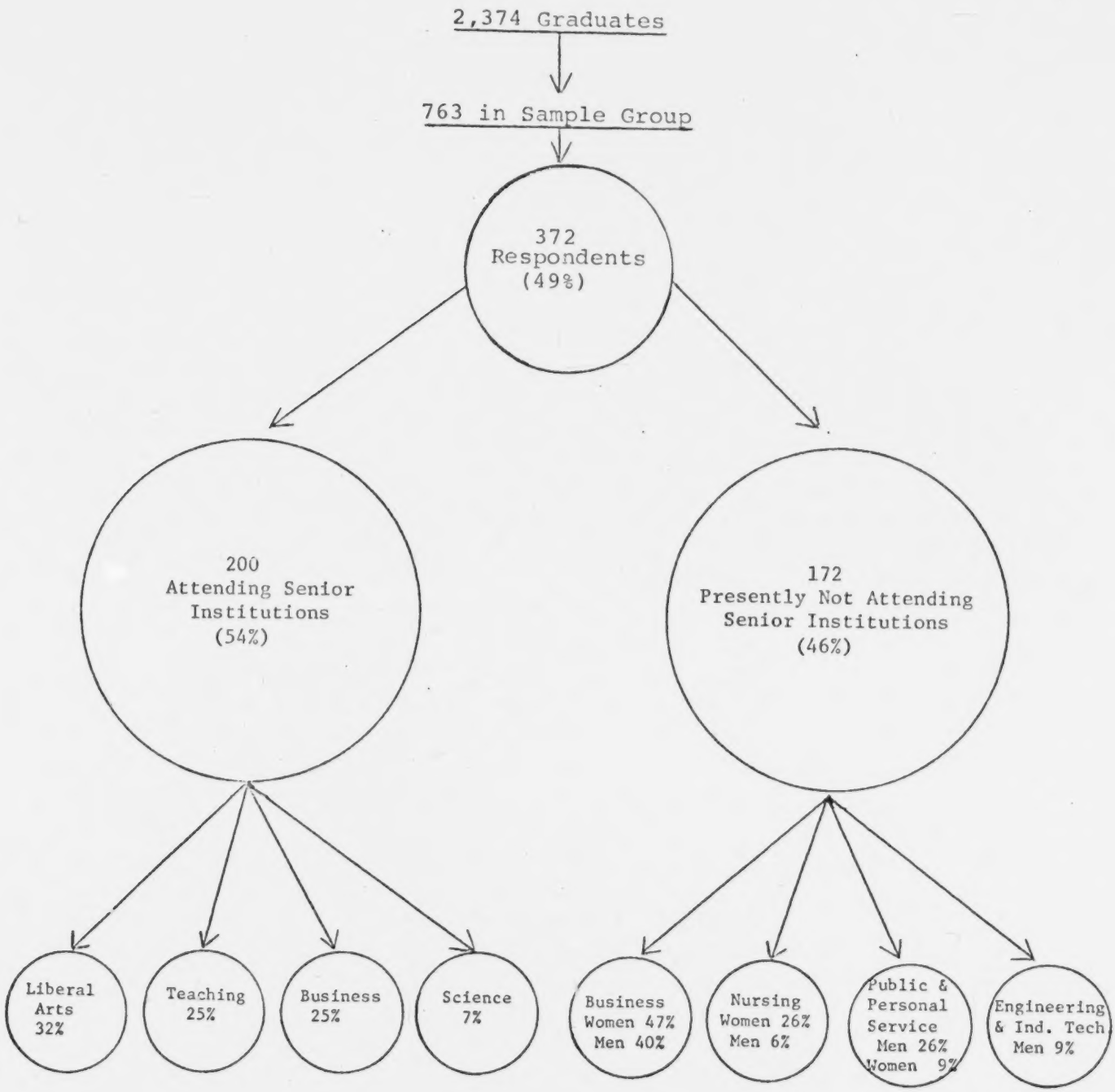
January 1973

WHAT ARE THE PRESENT PURSUITS
OF CCC GRADUATES OF 1972?



A PROFILE OF CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO 1972 GRADUATES

The following study of City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) graduates is based upon an approximate one-third sample (N=763) of the 2,374 graduates of 1972 from the seven City Colleges of Chicago. The primary purposes of this investigation were:

(1) to determine the pursuits of these graduates upon their graduation from CCC.

(2) To study the relationship between the CCC educational choices of the graduates with their current endeavors, i.e., their continued education or field of work.

(3) to identify possible trends by comparing the characteristics and pursuits of these graduates with previous CCC graduates.

The results in this study were obtained through a questionnaire (and one follow-up) sent to a random sample of the 1972 graduates. A copy of this questionnaire is attached to this study. The following shows the sample group by CCC college as well as the responses upon which this study is based.

	Sample No.	Returns	Per Cent
Kennedy-King	116	55	47.4
Loop	112	52	46.4
Malcolm X	59	14	23.7
Mayfair	65	40	61.5
Olive-Harvey	123	51	41.5
Southwest	102	59	57.8
Wright	186	101	54.3
Total	763	372	48.7

As can be observed from these figures, approximately one-half (372 or 48.7 per cent) of the graduates surveyed responded. This rate of response approximates that of previous studies, with the last graduate follow-up yielding a return of 55 per cent. From a study of the returns, except in the case of Malcolm X College, where the return rate was only 24 per cent, there probably is little bias in the results obtained. Comparison of the data obtained will be compared to previous graduate follow-up study results in the discussion that follows for purposes of establishing reliable trends. As the following data show in terms of those graduates who transferred to senior institutions and those who did not, there would seem to be little bias in response rate, since there is a comparable number in each group.

	Senior College Transfers	Non-Senior College Transfers	Total
Kennedy-King	29	26	55
Loop	30	22	52
Malcolm X	4	10	14
Mayfair	18	22	40
Olive-Harvey	26	25	51
Southwest	35	24	59
Wright	58	43	101
Total	200	172	372

There was also little or no bias in reference to the rate of response by sex. The total sample had a comparable number of men (49.4 per cent) and women (50.6 per cent). The per cent of men responding was 46.4, and 53.6 per cent of the women responded. There was a significant difference between the sexes as regards attending a senior institution, with 65 per cent of the men transfers attending as compared with 44 per cent of the women attending. Even though the per cent of women attending senior institutions is lower than the per cent of the men, nevertheless the 44 per cent in this study is higher than the transfer rates obtained for women in 1965 and 1967, i.e., 33 per cent in each study.

In the following discussion of the responses to the various questions, numbered as in the inventory, the base of the per cents might vary from question to question. This is due in part to the fact that there was more than one possible response to some questions, and some respondents failed to respond to particular questions.

Wherever appropriate, the following discussion makes reference to data obtained in the study of the 1965 CCC graduates, where a comparable questionnaire was used. The following is a breakdown of CCC graduates for the last ten years.

Year	Total CCC Graduates
1962-1963	1,333
1963-1964	968
1964-1965	1,197
1965-1966	1,248
1966-1967	1,673
1967-1968	1,493
1968-1969	1,385
1969-1970	1,610
1970-1971	1,861
1971-1972	2,374
	15,142

QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO ALL GRADUATES:

Characteristics of City Colleges of Chicago Attendance

3 and 4: When did you first enroll at the City Colleges of Chicago? Did you attend primarily part-time or full-time?

In the 1965 graduate follow-up study it was found that about 80 per cent of the graduates required more than two years to graduate from CCC. In this study only about 60 per cent required more than two years to graduate, despite the comparability of full-time attendance status between the 1965 and 1972 groups, which were, respectively, 61 per cent and 62 per cent. About 2 out of every 3 students graduated within three years of first enrollment. CCC graduates who transfer to senior institutions, as indicated below, tend to graduate within a shorter period of time than those who do not transfer. Also, a greater per cent of senior college transfers attend CCC as full-time students (65 per cent) than the non-senior college transfers (59 per cent). The total CCC full-time enrollment is approximately 35 per cent.

Date of First CCC Enrollment	Senior College Transfers		Non-Senior Coll. Transfers		Total	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Before 1966	24	12.3	30	18.0	54	14.9
1966	6	3.1	5	3.0	11	3.0
1967	8	4.1	8	4.8	16	4.4
1968	17	8.7	23	13.8	40	11.0
1969	48	24.6	51	30.5	99	27.3
1970	75	38.5	44	26.3	119	32.9
1971	16	8.2	6	3.6	22	6.1
1972	1	.5	-	-	1	.3
Total	195	100.0	167	100.0	362	99.9

5: Were you enrolled in an occupational program, or a baccalaureate oriented program? Which one?

The following is a breakdown of the above question by senior college transfers and non-senior college transfers.

Sr. College Transf.			Non-transfer			Total		
Bac.	Occup.	Total	Bac.	Occup.	Tot.	Bac.	Occup.	Total
175 (92.1)	15 (7.9)	190	101 (60.5)	66 (39.5)	167	276 (77.3)	81 (22.7)	357

As can be observed from these data, 77 per cent of the graduates associated themselves with a baccalaureate program, while 23 per cent were enrolled in occupational programs. In 1965 these figures were 79 per cent and 21 per cent respectively, a very high degree of comparability with the 1972 data.

Within the senior college transfer group 92 per cent were in some CCC baccalaureate program, while 60 per cent of the non-transfer students were in baccalaureate programs. Only 8 per cent of the senior college transfers identified themselves with CCC occupational programs.

The most frequent curriculum choices were:

	1972		1965
	No.	Per cent	Per cent
Liberal Arts	111	34.2	18.0
Business	65	20.0	24.0
Nursing	36	11.1	-
Teaching	32	9.8	22.0

Even though some of the above differences can be accounted for by categorization difficulties, a significant difference does exist in the area of nursing, accounted for by the growth of the CCC nursing programs. The drop in those CCC graduates pursuing teaching

might be due to the limited employment opportunities, as well as the cutbacks in schools of education.

QUESTIONS PERTAINING ONLY TO GRADUATES PRESENTLY ATTENDING SENIOR INSTITUTIONS (questions 6 through 12)

6: What institution are you presently attending?

When the 1965 CCC graduates were surveyed, approximately one-half of them had transferred to either Roosevelt, Illinois Teachers College (Chicago State and Northeastern Illinois), or the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle. Even though the combined per cent going to those four institutions remains about the same, there has been a decrease in the number of CCC graduates going to private institutions, with a concommitant increase in the number of graduates going to public institutions. This trend was also evident in the follow-up of the 1967 transfers. The per cent of transfers to the University of Illinois (Chicago Circle) increased from 9.9 per cent in 1965 to 26.5 per cent in 1972. The following indicates the trend toward more of our graduates attending public senior institutions:

	Attending Private Senior Institutions	Attending Public Senior Institutions
1965	53%	47%
1972	30%	70%

The following presents a comparison, in per cents, of the senior institutions to which our graduates most frequently transferred and a comparison with the 1965 figures.

Senior Institutions	1972 Per Cents	1965 Per Cents
University of Illinois (Chicago Circle)	26.5	9.9
Chicago State University	15.3	( )
Northeastern Illinois State University	13.3	(19.1) ( )
Roosevelt University	13.3	19.1
DePaul University	7.1	7.9
Northern Illinois University	4.1	8.2
Governors State University	3.1	(Not established)

In 1965, 16.4 per cent of our graduates transferred to either Illinois Institute of Technology, Northwestern, North Park or Loyola; the per cent attending these private institutions for this current study was 4.0, another indication of a possible trend.

7 and 8: When did you begin? Are you attending part-time or full-time?

Since this study was initiated very soon after CCC graduation, it does not include those graduates who did not immediately transfer to a senior institution. A significant number of the 1972 graduates, who are not currently attending senior institutions, plan to enroll in the future. In the 1965 and 1967 transfer studies it was found that as many as 25 per cent more graduates delay their matriculation at senior institutions. As could be expected, almost

all (96 per cent)of the 1972 graduate transfers began their senior college education during 1972. In contrast to the 75 per cent who attended full-time in 1965, an even larger number of the 1972 graduates, 85 per cent, are attending senior institutions as full-time students.

9: What is your major?

Since an unstructured approach was used, the program classifications given below are not discrete, but they should give a fairly reliable picture of the majors of our transfer graduates. In addition the CCC majorsof the same students are given for comparative purposes.

	CCC Major Per Cent	Sr. College Major Per Cent
Liberal Arts	52.7	31.8
Business	23.1	25.0
Teaching	11.0	25.0
Social Service	4.4	2.6
Engineering	3.8	4.2
Science	3.3	6.8
Other	1.6	4.7
Total	99.9	100.1

As previously discussed, some of the above variations can be accounted for by dissimilar categorization terminology, but the large differences in the areas of liberal arts and teaching do

indicate "major" changes of our graduates. In an attempt to measure further the degree of change of majors, paired majors of each individual were studied, i.e., before transfer and after transfer. The following results were obtained:

	No.	Per Cent
Pursuing same field of study	84	51.2
Pursuing comparable field of study	59	36.0
Pursuing different field of study	21	12.8
	164	100.0

These results indicate a high degree of stability in the program retention of our graduates. One-half are pursuing in senior college the same program as they were at CCC, while another 36 per cent are majoring in a comparable field of study. These findings would seem to indicate a high degree of realistic goal setting for our graduate transfer students.

10: When do you plan to graduate?

The breakdown below shows the graduates' expectations with reference to attainment of the baccalaureate degree. Since 96 per cent of these graduates began their senior college work in or prior to Fall, 1972, if a normal course load of study were pursued, graduation could occur in 1974. Even though this type of "normal"pursuit has become rather uncommon, approximately 8 out of 10 graduates plan to graduate by 1974, and 9 out of 10 graduates plan to graduate within 3 years.

Plan to graduate	No.	Per Cent
Within 2 years	153	78.5
Within 3 years	24	12.3
More than 3 years or don't know	18	9.2
	195	100.0

11: Hours of College Work Completed Since CCC Graduation

Since approximately 3 out of every 4 of these students entered senior college in Fall, 1972, sufficient time has not elapsed for most of them to have earned many hours of credit. At the time of responding to this inventory 43 per cent had not earned any senior college credit. An additional 44 per cent had earned up to 20 semester hours of credit, and 13 per cent had earned over 20 hours. Considering the large number carrying full-time programs, 85 per cent, and the varying entrance dates, these figures seem to indicate satisfactory progress at this time.

12: If you are gainfully employed, how many hours are you working per week?

Even though most of these graduates are pursuing full-time programs, 61 per cent are gainfully employed. The per cent in 1965 was 50. These figures would seem to substantiate the necessity of CCC graduates to work if they are to pursue their education, even though fewer are working more than 20 hours a week: 71 per cent, in contrast to 75 per cent in 1965. The median number of hours for those working is 27 hours.

QUESTIONS PERTAINING ONLY TO GRADUATES
NOT PRESENTLY ATTENDING SENIOR INSTITUTIONS

13-15: Have you applied for admission to a four-year college or university? At which four-year institution did you apply? Were you accepted?

Of the 167 non-transfers to senior college, approximately one-quarter had applied to some senior institution and of this group, 65 per cent had been accepted but did not attend. Of the 121 graduates who had not applied, approximately one-half of this group planned to apply in the future. Senior institutions to which these graduates applied most frequently were Chicago State, Northeastern Illinois, Illinois (Circle), Roosevelt and DePaul.

Of the 16 graduates who were not accepted or have not been accepted to date, 8 are currently waiting for a response from the institutions to which they applied. Of the 8 who were not accepted, reasons for non-acceptance were: low grades (3), need for additional courses (3), late transcript (1), and institution didn't have the desired program (1).

16-19: Are you presently employed? Are you working in a job for which you were especially prepared by your CCC program choice? In what type of occupation are you engaged? Did your CCC education give you specific skills usable in this job?

An evaluation of a community college should include not only a follow-up of its graduates who transfer to senior institutions, but also those who do not pursue a bachelor's degree. Frequently, students do not relate their program of study or individual courses to a specific job. It was the purpose of the above questions to determine the relationships between CCC program choices and the jobs

that the graduates presently hold and between specific skills gained through various courses at CCC and jobs currently held. In other words, how functional were the program choices of these graduates?

Of the 167 graduates who responded to the item "Are you presently employed?", as can be observed from the data below, almost 9 out of 10 are currently employed. Comparable per cents are also indicated for the 1965 graduates.

	1965	1972
Employed	86.2%	88.6%
Not employed	2.5%	6.6%
Housewife	11.3%	4.8%

To the question, "Are you working in a job for which you were especially prepared by your CCC program choice?", the responses in per cents were:

	1965	1972
Job related to CCC program choice	39%	49%
Job unrelated to CCC program choice	61%	51%

To the question, "Did your CCC education give you specific skills usable in this job?", the responses in per cents were:

	1965	1972
CCC courses gave specific skills usable in this job	66%	68%
CCC courses did not give specific skills usable in this job	34%	32%

The graduates were asked to state their present occupations. Even though it was difficult to categorize all jobs appropriately, the following categories, by sex, should yield a valid picture:

Women (N=93)		Men (N=55)	
Business	47.3%	Business	40.0%
Nursing	37.6%	Public and Personal Service	25.5%
Public and Personal Service	8.6%	Industrial Technology	20.0%
Health Service Occupations	4.3%	Nursing	5.5%
Professional	2.2%	Professional	3.6%
		Engineering	3.6%
		Transportation	1.8%

The categories of business and nursing account for 85 per cent of the women graduates, as do business, public and personal service, and industrial technology for the men graduates. The large number employed in nursing and industrial technology is a result of CCC efforts in these areas during the past several years.

The fact that about one-half of these working graduates stated that they were working on jobs for which their CCC program choice did not prepare them, and also the fact that about one-third of the graduates did not feel that they were given specific skills usable in their work, indicates a need for improved counseling with respect to program selection and job placement.

20: Have you taken or do you plan to take additional courses after CCC graduation?

Added to the 54% of the 1972 graduates who are currently pursuing their education at senior institutions, an additional 32% of the non-transfers to senior colleges either have taken or plan to take additional courses. This figure is comparable to the 82% of the 1965 graduates who continued their education. Responses to this question were:

	No.	Per cent
Have taken additional courses or plan to	115	68.9
Do not plan to take additional courses	37	22.2
Undecided	15	9.0
	167	100.1

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the primary purposes of this study the following conclusions can be drawn:

(1) As indicated by previous graduate follow-up studies, a majority of CCC graduates either continue or plan to continue their education after graduation (86 per cent).

(2) The high correlation between CCC program choices and program choices by graduates in senior institutions indicates a high degree of realistic goal-setting by these students while attending the City Colleges of Chicago.

(3) Even though a greater number of graduates are working in jobs for which they were especially prepared by their CCC program choice than indicated in previous follow-up studies, there still seems to be a need for improvement in this area.

(4) More CCC graduates who transfer to senior institutions are now going to public senior institutions than private senior institutions.

(5) In comparison to previous graduating classes, the 1972 class graduated from CCC in a shorter period of time (66 per cent in three years or less).

(6) The recent growth of the CCC technical and occupational programs is evidenced by the increased number of graduates now employed in this area.